

February 27, 2002

Mayor Sharpe James
City of Newark
Newark City Hall
920 Broad Street
Newark, N. J. 07102-2332

Dear Mayor James,

As you may know, I am a resident at 1060 Broad Street. This building is managed by Essex Plaza One Management Corporation of which Ken Pagano is the CEO. Although we have formed a tenants association, management refuses to acknowledge our organization. In fact members of One Essex Plaza Tenants Association are threatened with eviction, harassed, and prevented from using the Community Room.

Although Seton Hall legal department, who is handling our case, has advised the management that what they are doing is illegal we are going to have to take these people to court to obtain our rights. This is blatant racism and appalling in view of the inability of we tenants to stop these assaults. What is more appalling is the fact that you are planning to accept a invitation from management to attend a breakfast on Saturday May 2nd from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The enclosed documents show the tactics that Essex Plaza Management is using to deter some of the tenants from exercising their right to organize (stated in our lease) as per HUD regulations and to have functions. We have been denied use of the community room even though we have followed whatever rules that management has determined to use this facility.

What I want to know, is how you can be so callous as to ignore the troubles that Ken Pagano is giving some tenants and patronize the tenants he determines are allowed to congregate in the community room. Naturally, as a long time resident of the City of Newark, and a person that has contributed much to this city, I am appalled that you feel that some of the residents of Newark are not worth your consideration.

Please reconsider your position in this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Lavender

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